



**WASHINGTON STATE
OFFICE OF PUBLIC DEFENSE**

Larry Jefferson, Director

Email: opd@opd.wa.gov

(360) 586-3164
FAX (360) 586-8165

Application Pool Announcement

The Washington State Office of Public Defense Parent Representation Program is starting an application pool for contracts for future openings in all Washington State Counties. The approximate current caseload for a full-time attorney is 80 cases. The current annual compensation for a full-time contract is \$200,347. Part-time attorney position compensation is pro-rated based on a percentage of a full-time case load.

Support: OPD provides support to contracted attorneys/agencies by providing Westlaw, access to JIS, access to funds for expert services pursuant to OPD's expert services policy, as well as access to technical support from experienced OPD staff. OPD provides social services workers who contract independently with OPD to assist attorneys on cases and provide support for parents. In addition, OPD provides access to a virtual academy for contractors, a contractor online toolbox that includes a brief bank, prior training materials, and access to forms. OPD contractors can sign up for the dependency list serve to gain access to a wealth of knowledge and experience of dependency attorneys statewide.

Training: While previous experience handling dependency and termination cases is a desired qualification, **ALL** interested attorneys, agencies, or firms who have a desire to represent parents are encouraged to apply. OPD has a virtual academy and can provide mentoring and training to attorneys, firms, or agencies we contract with. OPD also coordinates and hosts a number of CLEs annually to ensure contractors can meet contractual training requirements. OPD also offers some scholarships for state and national trainings.

Paid Family Medical Leave: PFML often is available to employees of our contractors (including private law firms). PFML program includes an opt-in for self-employed people such as our solo practice contractors. More information can be found at the following link <https://paidleave.wa.gov/elective-coverage/>

Public Loan Forgiveness: Contractors with OPD qualify under the federal Public Loan Forgiveness Program. Contractors can submit the appropriate form to their managing attorney annually for verification of employment. More information on PSLF can be found here <https://studentaid.gov/manage-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/public-service>

Application Procedure

If you would like additional information please feel free to call OPD and speak with one of our parent representative program managing attorneys at 360-586-3164. If you would like to submit an application to keep on file for future openings, please email a letter of interest identifying your qualifications and a resume.

Email Materials to:

Ryan Siu, Program Analyst
Ryan.siu@opd.wa.gov

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